

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
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Governor Proclaims Emergency Medical Services Week in North Dakota

BISMARCK, N.D. – Governor Jack Dalrymple has proclaimed May 19 through 25, 2013, as Emergency Medical Services Week in North Dakota.

This year's event honors the more than 5,000 personnel who serve the state's emergency medical services (EMS) system. This year's theme, "EMS: One Mission. One Team." emphasizes the excellent services provided every day, under all circumstances, by the North Dakota EMS providers who serve their communities.

"Emergency medical services are an integral part of North Dakota's health-care system," said Tom Nehring, director of the Division of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma for the North Dakota Department of Health. "These dedicated and determined emergency workers help to ensure the health, protection and physical well-being of all North Dakotans. They are heroes every day."

The members of emergency medical services teams, both pre-hospital and in-hospital, are highly trained specialists ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Emergency medical services systems dramatically improve the survival and recovery rate of people who experience sudden illness or injury, and EMS personnel are dedicated to saving lives through injury prevention, safety awareness and emergency preparedness.

For more information about Emergency Medical Services Week, contact Tom Nehring, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.328.2388.

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Please note: Proclamation follows. A photo of the proclamation signing is also attached.

Photo Caption:

Standing (left to right): Tom Nehring and Ruth Hursman, North Dakota Department of Health, Division of EMS and Trauma; Suzan Hanson, West River Ambulance (Hettinger, N.D.); Curt Halmrast, President, ND EMS Association

Sitting (left to right): Pam Kaitfors, EMS Service of the Year, West River Ambulance (Hettinger, N.D.); Governor Jack Dalrymple; Pat Tracy, EMS Provider of the Year and ND Star of Life, Maddock Ambulance

Not pictured: Dr. Susan Thompson, Medical Director of the Year (Cavalier); Liz Beck, Telecommunications Award (Cavalier)

PROCLAMATION
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK
May 19-25, 2013

WHEREAS, emergency medical services are a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota's emergency medical services system consists of physicians, nurses, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, firefighters, educators, administrators and others; and

WHEREAS, emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim May 19-25, 2013, **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK** in the state of North Dakota.

Jack Dalrymple
Governor

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